

128 46. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim 44 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting said polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

123 66. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim 64 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting said polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

124 137. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim 135 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting said polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

1 160. (Twice Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 158, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising amino acids 35 to 92 of SEQ ID NO:2; and wherein said polypeptide [bind]binds an antibody with specificity for the polypeptide of amino acids 24 to 468 of SEQ ID NO:2.

125 161. (Twice Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 158, wherein said nucleic acid encodes a polypeptide comprising amino acids 114 to 160 of SEQ ID NO:2; and wherein said polypeptide [bind]binds an antibody with specificity for the polypeptide of amino acids 24 to 468 of SEQ ID NO:2.

176. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim [174]172 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting a polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

192. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim 190 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting said polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

195. (Twice Amended) [The]An isolated polynucleotide [of claim 194, wherein said nucleic acid]comprising a nucleic acid which hybridizes to the complement of nucleotides 412 to 681 of SEQ ID NO:1 under conditions comprising:

(a) incubating at 42°C in a solution consisting of 50% formamide, 5x SSC, 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 7.6), 5x Denhardt's solution, 10% dextran sulfate, and 20 µg/ml denatured, sheared salmon sperm DNA; and

(b) washing at 65°C in a solution consisting of 0.1x SSC.

207. (Once Amended) A method of using the host cell of claim 205 to screen for ligand binding, comprising culturing said host cell under conditions such that a polypeptide encoded by said polynucleotide is expressed, contacting said polypeptide with [said]a ligand, and detecting binding of said ligand to said polypeptide.

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.